

Wisconsin Early Childhood Care and Education Resource Listing
Updated October 10, 2016

Birth to 3 Program

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Long Term Care, Bureau of Long-Term Support

1 W. Wilson Street, P.O. Box 7851

Madison, WI 53707-7851

Phone: 608-266-8276, Fax: 608-261-8884

Website: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/children/birthto3/index.htm>

Birth to 3 is Wisconsin's early intervention program for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and their families. A federal law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), provides a framework for a comprehensive program and coordinates developmental, health and social services within a community. The Department of Health Services oversees the Birth to 3 Program in Wisconsin.

The Birth to 3 Program is for children ages birth to 36 months. Eligibility is based on a diagnosed disability or significant delay in one or more areas of development. The team will evaluate the child's ability to learn (cognitive development); move, see and hear (physical/motor development); communicate and understand other's communication (speech and language development); respond to and relate with others (social and emotional development); and eat, dress and care for daily living needs (adaptive development). A Birth to 3 service coordinator helps the family understand and participate in the evaluation process.

Black Child Development Institute - Milwaukee

Wanda J. Montgomery, President

1720 W. Florist Avenue, Suite 200

Glendale, WI 53209

Phone: 855-653-2234, Fax: 877-446-4633

Website: <http://bcdi-milwaukee.org>

BCDI-Milwaukee is the local Affiliate of the National Black Child Development Institute whose mission is "To improve and advance the lives of black children and their families through education and advocacy." BCDI-Milwaukee has been serving African-American children and their families in Milwaukee for over 18 years. BCDI-Milwaukee has established a number of programs dedicated to improving child welfare, education and building family support that is vital to our children's health.

Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Board

110 E. Main Street, Suite 810

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-6871, Fax: 608-266-3792

Website: <https://preventionboard.wi.gov/pages/homepage.aspx>

The Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Board (formerly the Children's Trust Fund) promotes the development of a sustainable, comprehensive prevention infrastructure that reflects research and promising practices in child abuse and neglect prevention. Through strategic partnerships and investments, the Board supports Wisconsin communities in the provision of services to prevent child abuse and neglect. Best-practice guidelines, comprehensive training, and tools for collecting uniform outcome-based evaluation data measuring the effectiveness of prevention programs are provided to funded organizations.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Community Nutrition Programs

P.O. Box 7841

Madison, WI 53707

Phone: 608-267-9129

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/community-nutrition/cacfp>

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) in Wisconsin. The CACFP helps provide funding for nutritious meals and snacks served to children and adults receiving day care. In addition to day care, the CACFP also provides funding for meals served to children and youths residing in homeless shelters and for snacks provided to youths participating in eligible afterschool care programs. The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) promotes healthy and

nutritious meals for children and adults in day care by reimbursing participating day care operators for their meal costs. A resource library is available on the USDA Team Nutrition website at:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/resource-library>

Child Care Certification

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Care Regulation
201 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

Phone: 608-422-6027 or contact local certifying agency:

<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/certification/pdf/certifiers.pdf>

Website: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/certification/>

A child care provider who provides care for 3 or fewer children under the age of 7 years who are unrelated to the provider may voluntarily become certified. The county/tribal human services departments are required to certify providers who serve children subsidized by the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program. In Milwaukee, the Bureau of Milwaukee Early Care Administration (MECA) is responsible for certification. The certifying agency may make certification available to all providers, whether or not public funding is involved. DCF promulgates the certification rules in chapter DCF 202. The certifying agencies throughout Wisconsin administer the certification programs, monitor providers for compliance with the certification rules, and investigate complaints. The certification agencies maintain a file on each provider that includes copies of the provider's complaint and compliance history. Information on a provider's complaint and compliance history is available by phone, mail, or in-person review or on the Child Care Search website at: <http://childcarefinder.wisconsin.gov>. The listing of certification agencies outside of Milwaukee is posted at: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/certification/pdf/certifiers.pdf>. For information on certification in Milwaukee please see the information at: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/meca/>

Child Care Information Center (CCIC)

2109 S. Stoughton Road

Madison, WI 53716

Phone: 608-224-5388 or 1-800-362-7353, Fax: 608-224-6178

E-mail: ccic@dpi.wi.gov

Website: <http://ccic.wi.gov/>

The Department of Children and Families supports the CCIC mail-order lending library and information clearinghouse serving anyone in Wisconsin working in the field of child care and early childhood education. CCIC offers educators statewide free written materials, help in planning individualized and group trainings, and loan of books and videos from a specialized collection in the DPI Resources for Libraries and Lifelong Learning. Staff will search for information as requested and mail it out in customized packets. CCIC has materials on numerous topics including: 1) child care, early childhood, and school-age care; 2) early childhood curriculum and assessment; 3) health and safety; 4) Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (books, posters, bookmarks, and training materials); 5) multi-cultural awareness; 6) inclusion of children with disabilities in child care programs; 7) brochures and other information that providers need to meet regulatory requirements; and 8) materials in Spanish and Hmong.

Child Care Licensing

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Care Regulation
201 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53708

Phone: 608-266-9314, Fax: 608-267-7252

Website: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/Index.HTM>

Child care programs that provide care for 4 or more children under age 7 who are unrelated to the provider are required to be licensed. There are 5 regional and 3 district offices around the state that issue licenses, monitor programs for compliance with the licensing rules, and investigate complaints. The licensing offices maintain a file on each facility that includes copies of the center's complaint and compliance history. Information on a center's complaint and compliance history is available by phone, mail, in-person review, or on the Child Care Search website at: <http://childcarefinder.wisconsin.gov>. Packets that provide information on how to become licensed are available for \$25 by sending a cashier's check or money order (no personal checks will be accepted) made payable to the Department of Children and Families to the following address:

Department of Children and Families
Northern Regional Office

Please specify the type of center you are interested in starting (day camp, family child care, or group child care). Or, you may print and complete the *Ordering Information – Inquiry Packets* form (http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/forms/pdf/dcf_f_cfs2022.pdf) and send it with the required fee to the address listed above.

Wisconsin's Child Care Search is an online tool that contains information on the location and regulatory history of all child care centers and day camps regulated (licensed or certified) by the Department of Children and Families (DCF). It includes the YoungStar rating of participating programs. This information is provided to assist you in locating and learning more about regulated child care in Wisconsin: <http://childcarefinder.wisconsin.gov>

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&Rs)

c/o Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)

700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6

Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 1-888-713-KIDS or 608-443-2490 Fax: 608-441-5399

E-mail: info@supportingfamieliestogether.org

Website: <http://supportingfamieliestogether.org/child-care-resource-referral-agencies/>

Wisconsin's Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies work within eight regions of the state, serving all 72 counties and 11 tribes to ensure that Wisconsin's youngest children have high quality early childhood experiences. CCR&Rs have something to offer everyone: families looking for care or supports, early care and education providers in need of professional development opportunities or communities looking for information, data or solutions.

- **For Families:** educating families, as consumers of child care, so that they can make the most informed choice that is best for their family, providing a list of referred providers based on their needs and priorities, and connecting them with other community resources or supports so that they are prepared to be successful in raising their family.
- **For Early Care and Education Professionals:** delivering high quality training on a range of content areas from developmentally appropriate practices to Strengthening Families, providing customized technical consultation to potential and current early care and education providers through programs like Licensing Preparation, Active Early & YoungStar, and collecting and annually updating business information to maximize referrals to their programs.
- **For Communities:** educating stakeholders about what quality early care and education is and how to support it in communities, compiling data and producing reports regarding the local child care industry and convening stakeholders to advocate for the best possible outcomes for Wisconsin's youngest children.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program (CYSHCN)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health,

Bureau of Family and Community Health

Phone: 608-266-8178, Fax: 608-267-3824

Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/cyshcn/index.htm>

The Wisconsin CYSHCN funds 5 Regional Centers which provide direct service to families and providers. The CYSHCN Program philosophy is that children are best served within their families.

- Children and families are best supported within the context of their community.
- Families will have convenient access to care coordinators.
- Collaboration is the best way to provide comprehensive services.
- Family perspectives and presence must be included in all aspects of the system.

The Wisconsin CYSHCN Program directs projects and programs, provides leadership and technical assistance to support the efforts of agencies, provides education and training opportunities for staff and service providers and coordinates a statewide system of nutrition services. The CYSHCN Program provides grants to promote care for Wisconsin children and youth with special health care needs and their families.

The Wisconsin CYSHCN Program has a new publication to assist families who may have concerns or questions about their child's development or have recently received a diagnosis of a special health care need or disability. *Finding Your Way: A Navigation Guide for Wisconsin Families Who Have Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities* provides brief descriptions of programs, services and systems of support and gives

contact information to learn more about these and other resources. You can download a pdf version of the booklet, in English or Spanish, at: <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/connections/> or at: <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/products.php> under Health Products, Other Health Resources.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin - Community Services/Child Welfare Services

Offices throughout Wisconsin:

<http://www.chw.org/childrens-and-the-community/child-abuse-prevention/child-advocacy-centers>

Website: <http://www.chw.org/childrens-and-the-community/family-support-services/child-welfare-services>

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services is the state's largest private, not-for-profit provider of child welfare services. These services include prevention services, family resource centers, counseling, treatment foster care, public child welfare, and special needs adoption.

Community Collaboration Coaches

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/4k-community-approaches-collaboration-coaches.php>

Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners Community Collaboration Coaches assist communities as they partner to provide early childhood services. Coaches build and expand the regional early childhood infrastructure by facilitating the work of regional early childhood action teams and regional networks. Coaches network, share information, provide input, and promote collaboration within the state and regional early childhood infrastructure to support statewide planning and implementation of an early childhood comprehensive system in WI. Coaches work with school districts to promote services to Four-Year-Old Kindergarten and Services to Children with Disabilities using community approaches. Collaboration Coaches also facilitate professional development to assure quality outcomes through learning standards. They facilitate and assist in the delivery and implementation of the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards training to assure statewide access and increase emphasis on infants and toddlers especially related to Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards and social emotional development.

Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA)

CESA Contact Information: <http://dpi.wi.gov/cesa>

CESAs provide leadership and coordination of services for school districts, including curriculum development assistance, school district management development, coordination of vocational education, and exceptional/special education, research, human growth and development, data collection processing and dissemination, and in-service programs. CESAs work in partnership with school districts to provide leadership and to help facilitate change and continuous improvement in schools so that all children will achieve educational excellence. Twelve agencies across Wisconsin provide statewide service delivery.

Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) - Early Childhood Special Education Technical Assistance

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/disabilities-support.php>

Program Support Teachers (PST) provide support to school district early childhood personnel within their CESA region. Emphasis is on providing training and technical assistance related to the state performance plan indicators (#6 Preschool Educational Environments, #7 Child Outcomes, and #12 Transition from Part C) and initiatives. Additionally, the CESA PSTs and Coordinators act as a liaison among early childhood systems that touch the life of a child with a disability and their family (B-3, Head Start, Child Care, 4K-5K and Early Childhood Special Education).

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

Website: <http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/teach/CPL/>

Many Wisconsin child care providers haven't completed college degrees, but most have several years of relevant experience and many hours of non-credit-based training, mastering many of the skills and concepts that are learned through college courses. Credit for prior learning is an opportunity to recognize the current skill and knowledge level of Wisconsin's early childhood teachers, improve child care quality in the state, and meet expectations in the YoungStar program. Colleges that offer credit for prior learning award credit(s) to individuals who can demonstrate relevant skills and knowledge previously acquired through non-traditional schooling, non-credit-based training, work or other life experience.

Disability Rights Wisconsin

Website: <http://www.disabilityrightswi.org/>

Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) is a private non-profit organization. DRW is part of a national system of federally mandated independent disability agencies. DRW is completely independent of government and the disability service system in order to be free of any conflicts of interest which would undermine its capacity to advocate vigorously on

behalf of the human and legal rights of people with disabilities. Disability Rights helps people across Wisconsin gain access to services and opportunity through its advocacy and legal expertise. It regularly challenges systems and society to create positive change and improve the lives of people with disabilities. DRW provides informational training and other learning opportunities for consumers, family members, attorneys and others who support people in the disability community. DRW trainers offer effective strategies to strengthen individual advocacy skills, improve the system's response to issues of access, broaden the understanding of disability rights and more.

Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS – formerly EC LDS)

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/ecids>

The Early Childhood Integrated (formerly Longitudinal) Data System is a collaborative effort among the Wisconsin Departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Public Instruction, and Workforce Development to create a system that will allow Wisconsin to build, link and use data among State agencies in order to measure child outcomes across systems to evaluate young children's progress and inform policy decisions.

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707-7841

Phone: 608-267-9172 Fax: 608-267-3746

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/early-childhood>

Each of Wisconsin's 426 school districts provides special education services to children with identified disabilities, ages three to 21. Programs serving children from three to five years of age are called Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) programs. Services are provided in the least restrictive environment within a range of settings including the home, child care, Head Start, kindergarten, and early childhood special education programs. When children are served in general education, consultation and support services are available to teachers and other staff. Each school district is responsible to provide a continuum of special education and related services to children with disabilities who need special education. Children are evaluated to determine if they meet state eligibility criteria.

Early Childhood Systems

Wisconsin Department of Health Services – Wisconsin Maternal & Child Health Program

Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/mch/earlychildhoodsystems/index.htm>

Wisconsin Healthiest Families initiative focuses on networks of services addressing family supports, child development, mental health, and safety and injury prevention. The Keeping Kids Alive objective includes Child Death Review and Fetal Infant Mortality Review with the goal to establish a sustainable, coordinated system to identify causes of all fetal, infant and child deaths, resulting in preventive strategies for community action.

Early Dual Language Learner Initiative (EDLLI)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/diversity/dual-language-learners>

The Early Dual Language Learner Initiative (EDLLI) provides professional development, technical assistance and resources to community partners regarding culturally and linguistically responsive practices for young children, birth-six. The EDLLI Leadership Team, comprised of 25 stakeholders, and its smaller Steering Committee, were created as part of this initiative to help coordinate and advance efforts on behalf of young children who are dual language learners and their families throughout the state. In addition, the EDLLI collaborates with other state initiatives in order to include the strengths and needs of dual language learners and their families in different statewide trainings such as those provided by Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards, Preschool Options, and Wisconsin Pyramid Model for social emotional competence.

Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

School district homeless liaisons: http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/homeless/pdf/homeless_contacts.pdf

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/homeless>

The EHCY Program's major responsibility is to implement the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act. Homeless children and unaccompanied youth must have access to public school educational programs and services that allow them to meet the same challenging state academic standards to which all students are held, without being

segregated or stigmatized. The homeless liaison in each school district identifies and immediately enrolls homeless children and youth (preschool to grade 12), ensures that no barriers block their full educational participation, and helps them succeed in school. School districts partner with community agencies to identify and assist with basic services for homeless families, children, and youth. See <http://dpi.wi.gov/homeless/faq#presch> for details about how EHCY applies to preschool children.

Family Resource Centers (FRCs)

c/o Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)

700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6

Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 1-888-713-KIDS or 608-443-2490, Fax: 608-441-5399

E-mail: info@supportingfamilies.together.org

Website: <http://supportingfamilies.together.org/family-resource-centers/>

Family Resource Centers (FRCs) provide services and support systems that emphasize and build on family strengths. Each Family Resource Center is unique, but there are commonalities across programs. FRCs primarily focus on parents or primary caregivers and their children from prenatal through early childhood, and offer a wide range of services to meet the individual needs of each family and community. Each center aims to help parents and families develop additional positive parenting skills, and even grand-parenting skills. The specific services each center offers may be located at the center, in homes or at other locations in the community. In Wisconsin, FRCs may provide a combination of any of these core services and more:

- **Group services:** delivering parent education courses, workshops, support groups, drop-in programs, respite care, and play groups.
- **Individual services:** providing families with personal consultations and support through services such as telephone “warm-lines” for non-emergency parenting information, home visits, supervised visitation or safe exchange programs.
- **Outreach and family visiting services:** reaching out to parents and families in their homes or in other community-based locations convenient for families. This might be through collaborations with birthing hospitals to connect with new families, through community response to ensure families have support in times of need or through universal services such as car seat checks.
- **Community resource and referral and follow-up services:** offering a reliable link to public and private agencies and providing strong family advocacy within local communities. Families can receive referrals to other community programs, public benefits, and assistance with transportation.

Governor’s Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

201 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Website: <http://dcf.wi.gov/ecac>

The ECAC was established in December 2008. The mission of the Council is to help ensure that all children and families in Wisconsin have access to quality early childhood programs and services. It continues work dedicated to building a comprehensive, sustainable early childhood system in Wisconsin.

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC)

Website: <http://www.glitc.org>

The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) provides services to Native Americans in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. GLITC will support member tribes in expanding self-determination efforts by providing services and assistance. Member tribes of GLITC are: Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Forest County Potawatomi Community, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Saint Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community.

Grow in Quality (GIQ)

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Learning and Policy

201 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Phone: 608-422-6080

This project was conducted to identify key indicators of child care quality and to begin the process of designing technical assistance specific to quality indicators. Data were gathered on quality indicators from licensed group and licensed family child care centers participating in targeted areas of the state. The two primary purposes of the Grow in Quality project were:

1. To design and test an efficient, accurate, and effective instrument that can be used reliably by trained observers to assess key quality indicators, including classroom environments and business practices in group center programs and family child care programs.
2. To use the information gathered from the assessments, in collaboration with early care and education program directors, to develop meaningful plans for program improvement, to implement specified amounts and types of technical assistance, and to assess the impact of technical assistance on key quality indicators.

Growing Wisconsin Readers

Website: <http://growingwisconsinreaders.org/>

Blog: <http://blog.growingwisconsinreaders.org/>

Growing Wisconsin Readers is a statewide initiative rooted in public libraries that aims to support Wisconsin caregivers of young children with information about early literacy so they can prepare children for learning at school and beyond.

Local YoungStar Offices

Website: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/localoffice.htm>

YoungStar is Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system. Local YoungStar Offices are the place to go for all things YoungStar in any Wisconsin community. Providers can learn more about YoungStar, sign up to participate, and also receive training and technical assistance to help them grow the quality of their child care program. Parents can find information about child care providers and learn what to look for when choosing a program to care for their children.

Office of Early Learning (OEL)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

Phone: 608-267-9625

E-mail: jill.haglund@dpi.wi.gov

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/office-of-early-learning>

Creating an Office of Early Learning at DPI in late 2011 was a top strategy in Wisconsin's statewide early childhood system development. The OEL includes an Early Education Consultant; the Head Start State Collaboration Office; several Regional Coaches who work in the field to implement collaborative services and professional development as part of a "braided funding" initiative from three state departments (DPI, DCF, and DHS) and seven different funding streams; and an Early Childhood Data Coordinator funded by the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) to coordinate the state effort for an Early Childhood Integrated Data System. Additionally, the ECAC and OEL will collaborate to build the OEL as an early childhood professional development hub, designed to better align cross-sector professional development.

PALS Early Literacy Screener

PALS Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/historical/pals>

The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) was Wisconsin's required literacy screener from 2012-13 until 2015-16. Early literacy screening is required by Wisconsin Statute 118.016. Teachers used PALS to identify students at risk of developing reading difficulties, diagnose students' knowledge of literacy fundamentals, monitor progress, and plan instruction that targets students' needs. Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, districts could continue to use PALS or select a different assessment of reading readiness for use with each child enrolled in four-year-old kindergarten to second grade. The assessment of reading readiness must be administered at least annually, evaluate whether a child possesses phonemic awareness and letter sound knowledge, be an appropriate, valid, and reliable assessment of literacy fundamentals, and include students enrolled in special education programs. Results of the assessment must be communicated to each child's parent or guardian, and for children whose

assessment performance indicates a risk of reading difficulty, the school/district will provide interventions or remedial reading services.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Justyn Poulos, Wisconsin PBIS Network Assistant Director

Phone: 920-855-2114 Ext. 247

E-mail: poulosj@wisconsinpbisnetwork.org

Website: <http://www.wisconsinpbisnetwork.org>

Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is a systemic approach to proactive, school-wide behavior based on a Response to Intervention (RtI) model. PBIS applies evidence-based programs, practices and strategies for all students to increase academic performance, improve safety, decrease problem behavior, and establish a positive school culture. Schools implementing PBIS build on existing strengths, complementing and organizing current programming and strategies. The PBIS model has been successfully implemented in thousands of schools in over 40 states, resulting in dramatic reductions in disciplinary interventions and increases in academic achievement. Data-based decision making is a hallmark of PBIS, allowing successes to be easily shared with all relevant stakeholders. The Wisconsin Pyramid Model (SEFEL) is a preschool version of PBIS.

Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin

325 N. Commercial Street

Neenah, WI 54956

Phone: 920-969-7925 or 1-800-CHILDREN

E-mail: pcaw@cssw.org

Website: <http://www.preventchildabusewi.org/>

Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin is a program of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin builds community resources, provides training and public awareness, and carries out advocacy activities in order to strengthen child abuse prevention efforts in Wisconsin.

Professional Development Approval System (PDAS)

The Registry

5900 Monona Drive, #205

Madison, WI 53716

Phone: 608-222-1123

E-mail: registry@the-registry.org

Website: <https://www.the-registry.org/PDAS/Overview.aspx>

PDAS was created to allow practitioners in the early care profession to have a clearer understanding of what level of training is available and to ensure accountability for those providing the content-based training. The approval process for trainers and technical assistance providers includes verification of education, experience and competencies in the delivery areas. Resources related to the PDAS system can be found at: <http://the-registry.org/ResourceCenter.aspx>

Professional Development Counseling Service

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

744 Williamson St., Suite 200

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-240-9880 or 1-800-783-9322 option 3

Website: <http://www.wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/youngstar/PDcounseling/>

This one-on-one service provided by WECA staff members is tailored to the needs of each person and is relevant to all individuals, from those just beginning in the ECE field to seasoned professionals. The service includes goal-setting based on an individual's interests, needs, and learning style. It also provides up-to-date information on higher education opportunities, the T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Program, training and workshop opportunities in one's area, and information about resources to help individuals on their professional journey.

Public School Kindergarten

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

4K Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/4k>

4K Community Approach (4KCA) Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/kind/4k/4kca>

5K Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/kind/5k>

All Public elementary schools include 5-year-old kindergarten and may include 4-year-old kindergarten programs. Recently, 4-year-old kindergarten programs have seen a dramatic increase. Typically, these programs have been in public school buildings. An increased number of school districts have initiated community-based approaches through partnerships that bring 4 and 5-year-old kindergarten programs into child care, preschool, or Head Start center settings. In these locations, licensed teachers may still have separate kindergarten classrooms, may team-teach in a blended program, or teach through other arrangements. As of the 2015-16 school year, 96.6 percent of public school districts were offering 4K, serving 48,111 students.

Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT - ELC)

Website: <http://dcf.wi.gov/rttt>

Race to the Top – ELC is a \$34 million dollar grant awarded to Wisconsin by the federal government. The grant funds ten projects related to early childhood system-building, focused on improving the quality of child care for low-income and disadvantaged children between birth and kindergarten. The state Departments of Children and Families, Public Instruction, and Health Services participate in RTT - ELC. The grant started in January 2013 and will be active through December 2017.

The Registry

5900 Monona Drive, #205

Madison, WI 53716

Phone: 608-222-1123

E-mail: support@the-registry.org

Website: www.the-registry.org

The Registry is a career level system which awards a certificate verifying that an individual has met all State of Wisconsin, Department of Children and Family Services entry-level training and is qualified for the position that s/he holds. Additional credit-based training is categorized by core knowledge areas as defined by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The Registry encourages professional development by defining set goals and recognizes the attainment of those goals by individuals. The Registry has developed highly specialized professional credentials and awards completion of the credential to those individuals who have met all prescribed goals. Resource and support materials related to the Registry services are available at: <http://the-registry.org/ResourceCenter.aspx>.

The Registry Credentials

Website: <http://www.the-registry.org/Credentials.aspx>

The eight Credentials awarded by The Registry are: Administrator, Afterschool & Youth Development, Family Child Care, Inclusion, Infant Toddler, Leadership, Preschool, and Program Development. Each Credential is earned by taking a sequence of 4 to 6 specific, credit-based, college courses developed by The Registry and teams of experts to meet the unique professional needs of childhood care and education practitioners. Each Credential includes a Capstone Course to implement knowledge gained, culminates in the development of a portfolio or project, and has a commission process. Those awarded the 12-credit Family Child Care, Afterschool and Youth Development, Inclusion, Infant Toddler, Leadership, or Program Development Credential will be at Level 9 on The Registry Career Levels once completed successfully; those awarded the 18-credit Administrator or Preschool Credential are at Level 10. The Registry Career Levels can be found at: <http://the-registry.org/Membership/CareerLevels.aspx>

The Registry Program Profile - YoungStar

Website: <http://www.the-registry.org/ProgramProfile/YoungStar.aspx>

The Registry Program Profile for YoungStar collects details pertaining to the educational qualifications of staff as well as the assignment of staff to YoungStar-relevant positions. All education and training related sections within YoungStar are verified by The Registry and taken directly from a program's Registry Program Profile. Programs that would like the education and training of their staff to be reflected in their YoungStar rating MUST complete the YoungStar section of the Registry Program Profile. Programs without Program Profiles who go through a YoungStar Technical or Formal Rating cannot earn more than 2 Stars.

The items that will be directly factored into a YoungStar rating include:

- Director of Record or Licensee

- Classroom Description – This refers to all physical classrooms. In most cases, family child care homes will only have one classroom.
- YoungStar Lead Teacher for each classroom – An individual may only be a YoungStar Lead Teacher in one classroom including classrooms in other programs. In most cases, family child care homes will list the Licensee as the YoungStar Lead Teacher.

A video explaining the process of *Creating an Organization Account* may be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6y7nVhxYqxo&feature=youtu.be>. Resource and support materials related to the Registry services are available at: <http://the-registry.org/ResourceCenter.aspx>

REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program (Rewarding Education with Wages And Respect for Dedication)

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

Madison Office

744 Williamson Street, Suite 200

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-240-9880 or 800-783-9322, Fax: 608-729-1061

Website: <http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/reward/>

The REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program is a compensation and retention initiative for members of the early care and education workforce who are at Registry Level 7 or higher. Incremental yearly salary supplements are awarded based on one's educational attainments and longevity in the field. This program encourages increased education and retention through increased compensation.

Milwaukee Office

316 N. Milwaukee Street, Suite 410

Milwaukee, WI 53202

Phone: 414-278-9322, Fax: 414-278-9336

State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG)

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/educators/consultation/state-personnel-development-grant>

The 2013-2017 Wisconsin State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) has been developed to support public schools in which there is concern about the performance of students with disabilities on statewide assessments. Schools participating in SPDG will be offered professional development and ongoing support from SPDG partners (WI FACETS - *Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training and Support*, ECCAN - *Early Childhood Curriculum and Assessment Network*, and IHE - *Institutions of Higher Education*). To improve outcomes for children with disabilities, the SPDG project supports the following Wisconsin State Performance Plan Indicators: Indicator #1: Graduation Rates, Indicator #3: Assessments, and Indicator #7: Preschool Outcomes. Wisconsin's SPDG grant is authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs.

Statewide Training Calendar

Phone: 608-222-1123

E-mail: support@the-registry.org

Website: <https://www.the-registry.org/myregistry>

The Registry maintains a statewide, profession-wide, free, web-based interactive training calendar for anyone in the field of child care and education in Wisconsin. From the website, events, trainings, and for-credit courses may be sorted according to area of the state, date, topic, sponsor, presenter, tier level, or language. Those looking for trainings to attend can create a personalized calendar or training "shopping cart" by selecting only those events in which they are interested. Agencies offering training are encouraged to register as sponsors and post their event information directly on the interactive website.

Strengthening Families

Supporting Families Together Association

700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6

Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 1-888-713-KIDS or 608-443-2490, Fax: 608-441-5399

Website: <http://www.strengtheningfamilies.net/> or find Wisconsin information here:

http://www.cssp.org/reform/strengthening-families/national-network/Wisconsin_2015.pdf

Wisconsin was one of the first seven states to pilot the Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education Initiative, an innovative, research-based strategy to prevent child maltreatment by building on the strong relationships that parents of young children typically have with their child care providers. YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system, gives early care and education programs the opportunity to earn a point towards their quality rating when they participate in training on the Protective Factors Framework. The statewide network of

child care resource and referral agencies and family resource centers, known as the Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA), offers Strengthening Families training and technical assistance to early care and education providers and child care centers.

Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)

700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6

Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 1-888-713-KIDS or 608-443-2490, Fax: 608-441-5399

E-mail: info@supportingfamilies.together.org

Website: <http://www.supportingfamilies.together.org>

Supporting Families Together Association envisions in every Wisconsin community, that all children have the opportunity to reach their highest potential and all adults embrace their role and responsibility to children. To make this happen, SFTA supports and sustains an effective network of family support and early care and education systems through statewide membership of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, Family Resource Centers, and individuals committed to early childhood. SFTA focuses efforts on four early childhood priorities to promote quality, strengths-based, early childhood services in all communities:

- **Quality Early Care and Education:** SFTA is committed to working with our community-based organizations to advocate, educate and build Wisconsin's capacity to deliver high-quality early care and education experiences to all of Wisconsin's children. This is supported through programming like YoungStar, Training & Technical Assistance and Child Care Resource & Referral services.
- **Strong Families:** SFTA provides concrete support to families in a strengths-based and evidence-informed manner in order to prevent child abuse and neglect. This is supported through child abuse and neglect prevention efforts such as Parent Cafés, and through training, including Strengthening Families™, Stewards of Children and SFTA's annual Small Change Makes a Big Difference Teach-a-Thon. SFTA also provides support and technical assistance to Family Resource Centers throughout Wisconsin.
- **Healthy Children:** SFTA is actively engaged in a broad range of health promotion efforts that are designed to create better health outcomes for all of Wisconsin's children. This is supported through promotion of The Pyramid Model of Social Emotional Competence and obesity prevention initiatives like Active Early and Healthy Bites.
- **Responsive Systems:** SFTA builds systems and supports to early childhood that result in opportunities for all children to reach their highest potential. This is integrated into all programming at SFTA, including the radio program, Apoyando Familias, Aprendiendo Juntos and intentional supports for Wisconsin's 11 First Nations.

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin Scholarship Program (Teacher Education And Compensation Helps)

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

744 Williamson Street, Suite 200

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-240-9880 or 1-800-783-9322, option 3; Fax: 608-729-1061

Website: <http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/teach/>

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin is a statewide scholarship program designed to help teaching staff in child care centers and after-school programs, Head Start teachers, family child care providers, and center directors and administrators advance their educational qualifications while continuing their current employment in regulated early childhood and school-age care settings. T.E.A.C.H. links education, compensation and commitment to improving the quality of early education. A variety of scholarship models meet the diverse needs of the workforce. All models support credit-based education in Wisconsin institutions of higher education. By working in partnership with programs and scholarship recipients, T.E.A.C.H. pays the largest share of expenses related to the completion of an educational path towards a credential, degree, or coursework related to improving a YoungStar rating. T.E.A.C.H. provides counseling and administrative support as well, plus a bonus upon contract completion.

Tom Copeland

Website: <http://tomcopelandblog.com>

Tom Copeland has been a leading trainer, author, and advocate on business issues for family child care providers since 1981. His *Taking Care of Business* blog focuses on the business side of running a family child care program, including record keeping, taxes, contracts, legal issues, insurance, money management and retirement planning.

UMOS Migrant Child Care Program

2701 S. Chase Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53207

Other UMOs office locations: <http://www.umos.org/corporate/locations.html>

Phone: 414-389-6000 or 1-800-279-8667, Fax: 414-389-6047

Website: http://www.umos.org/childhood/migrant_child_care.html

UMOS services enhance the overall development of children from migrant farm worker parents through the consolidation and allocation of administration and social service migrant child care funds. The overall goal of the UMOs Migrant Child Care Program is to collaboratively provide quality educational and supportive services to eligible migratory children, addressing their special needs and empowering them to achieve to high standards.

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Family Living Programs

637 Extension Building, 432 Lake Street

Madison, WI 53706

Phone: 608-263-1095

County offices: <http://counties.uwex.edu>

Website: <http://flp.ces.uwex.edu>

Family Living Programs are developed using university research. UW-Extension educators in each county and on the UW-Madison campus respond to the challenges facing today's families with evidence-informed programs and practices, as well as local knowledge gained from living in the communities they serve. Extension educators help to create an environment where families have the information, skills, and assets they need to contribute to their communities and improve their quality of life in such areas as family relationships, nutrition and health, and financial security.

Waisman Center

1500 Highland Avenue

Madison, WI 53705-2280

Phone: 608-263-5776, Fax: 608-263-0529

Website: <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu>

One of 14 national centers dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about human development, developmental disabilities, and neurodegenerative diseases through research and practice, the Waisman Center shares its resources in many ways: through public lectures and seminars; through consultation to physicians, educators, and other professionals; through articles in professional journals, books, and other publications; and through an internet web site and resource center related to developmental disabilities in early childhood:

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/early.php>

Wisconsin Academic Standards

Website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/standards>

Wisconsin Academic Standards specify what students should know and be able to do in kindergarten through twelfth grade classrooms. The standards cover many separate subject areas. An awareness of the content of the Academic Standards can assist child care providers with intentionally designing developmentally appropriate learning environments and activities that prepare students for success in K-12 education.

Wisconsin AfterSchool Association (WAA)

2214 E. Capitol Drive

Milwaukee, WI 53211

Phone: 608-276-9782

Website: <http://www.waaweb.org>

The National AfterSchool Association's mission is to be the leading voice of the afterschool profession dedicated to the development, education, and care of children and youth during their out-of-school hours. The Wisconsin AfterSchool Association is the state affiliate of the national organization. It hosts a statewide conference, administers the Wisconsin Afterschool and Youth Development Credential, publishes a quarterly newsletter, and supports public policy development at state and national levels. It provides a professional network for all providers of out-of-school time programs serving the diverse needs of Wisconsin's children and families.

Wisconsin Afterschool Network (WAN)

Marshfield Clinic Center for Community Outreach

Website: <http://www.wiafterschoolnetwork.org>

The Wisconsin Afterschool Network, a public/private partnership of local and state organizations, is a vehicle for bringing together policymakers, educators, child care providers, youth development workers, program developers, advocates, parents and others interested in improving outcomes for children and youth through school-aged afterschool programs. WAN's mission is to support schools and community partners in delivering high quality school-age afterschool programs to diverse children and youth, programs that increase academic achievement, enhance youth development and encourage family involvement.

Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health (WI-AIMH)

133 S. Butler Street, Suite 340

Madison, WI 53703-5606

Phone: 608-442-0360 Fax: 608-441-8920

E-mail: admin@wiimh.org

Website: <http://www.wiimh.org/>

The WI-AIMH is focused on promoting healthy social and emotional development of all Wisconsin children birth through age five. The Wisconsin Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Plan presents a blueprint for a comprehensive system of care that includes prevention, early intervention, and treatment. The goal of the initiative is to weave infant and early childhood principles into the fabric of all systems that touch the lives of young children. The developing infant and early childhood system of care in Wisconsin includes the critical components of public awareness, training, service delivery, and policy.

Wisconsin Birth to 3 REsource Project

Cooperative Service Agency #5 (CESA 5)

626 E. Slifer Street, Portage WI 53901

Phone: 608-742-8811

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/disabilities-support.php>

The REsource Project provides technical assistance, supportive supervision and monitoring to local county Birth to 3 Programs and their community partners. A dedicated REsource Facilitator is assigned for each DHS region to work collaboratively with the State Birth to 3 staff, Wisconsin Personnel Development Project (WPDP), and the Great Lakes Intertribal Council, Inc. (GLITC).

Wisconsin Child Care Administrator's Association (WCCAA)

Website: <http://www.wccaa.org/>

The Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association was founded in 1976 to help child care administrators in Wisconsin network with each other, spread the news about issues affecting them, take joint action on advocacy issues, and help administrators find out about classes and training specifically designed to meet their needs. WCCAA plays a critical role in directing the future of professionalism in child care in Wisconsin by working with local, state, and federal government officials to educate them about WCCAA, its members, and its commitment to professionalism and excellence in child care.

Wisconsin Child Care Research Partnership (WCCRP)

University of Wisconsin-Extension

Website: <http://www.sohe.wisc.edu/outreach/wccrp/publications.html>

The Wisconsin Child Care Research Partnership was developed as a partnership with UW-Extension, the Department of Workforce Development, and the Wisconsin Child Care Resource and Referral Network. The Partnership conducted statewide research on all aspects of the early care and education system in the state between 2000 and 2006. The research findings, particularly related to the quality of care for low-income children, led to the publication of research briefs and policy options papers, as well as testimony, papers, and reports for many policy level groups. The Partnership formally ended in 2006, but materials are still available at the above web address.

Wisconsin Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (Lead-Safe Wisconsin)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health,

Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health

1 W. Wilson Street, Room 145, P. O. Box 2659

Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2659

Phone Number: 608-266-5817, Fax Number: 608-267-0402

Website: <http://dhs.wi.gov/lead>

The Lead-Safe Wisconsin website has tools, resources and information for child care providers to help protect children from exposure to lead and prevent childhood lead poisoning. This includes information on the effects of lead on young children and the lifelong health outcomes associated with lead exposure and actions that can be taken to prevent it. The site also has important information about lead-safe work practices that must be followed in child care centers when painting and renovating in a child-occupied facility built before 1978. If you want to know if childhood lead poisoning occurs in your community, this website tells you how to obtain maps of Wisconsin communities indicating the locations of homes where children have been found to be lead-poisoned (see <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/epht/lead.htm>, or call the Wisconsin Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 608-266-5817).

Wisconsin Circuit Court Access (WCCA)

Website: <http://wcca.wicourts.gov/index.xsl>

The WCCA website provides access to certain public records of the circuit courts of Wisconsin. The information displayed is an exact copy of the case information entered into the Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP) case management system by court staff in the counties where the case files are located. The court record summaries viewed here are all public records under Wisconsin open records law. (However, it may be a violation of state law for an employer to discriminate against a job applicant because of an arrest or conviction record. Generally speaking, an employer may refuse to hire an applicant on the basis of a conviction only if the circumstances of the conviction substantially relate to the particular job. For more information, see *Wisconsin Statute 111.335* (<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/111/II/335>) and the Department of Workforce Development's *Arrest and Conviction Records under the Law* publication (http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/discrimination_civil_rights/publication_erd_7609_p.htm), or contact Child Care Licensing at the Department of Children and Families (<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/contact.htm>).

Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF)

555 W. Washington Avenue, Suite 200

Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Phone: 608-284-0580, Fax: 608-284-0583

E-mail for General Information: bzuccarello@wccf.org

Website: <http://www.wccf.org>

The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, Inc. is a nonprofit, multi-issue child and family advocacy agency. Headquartered in Madison, the Council's mission is to promote the well-being of children and families in Wisconsin by advocating for effective and efficient health, education, and human service delivery systems. WCCF accomplishes this through publications, educational conferences, and on-going projects such as Child Safety, Early Education, Health Care, Justice for Wisconsin Youth, Vision 2020 to end child poverty by 2020, the Wisconsin Budget Project, and WisKids Count. The Council's Early Education efforts focus on quality early learning experiences for Wisconsin's children ages birth to five. The intent is that all early education—no matter what setting—meets critical standards of quality. The Council sees early education as a linchpin for children's educational success in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

2811 Agriculture Drive, P.O. Box 8911

Madison, WI 53708-8911

Phone: 608-224-5012

Website: <http://datcp.wi.gov>

This agency is responsible for food safety, animal and plant health, protecting water and soil and monitoring fair and safe business practices. This agency is responsible for inspecting and licensing more than 100,000 businesses and individuals, analyzing millions of laboratory samples, conducting hundreds of hearings and investigations, educating businesses and consumers about best practices, adopting rules that have the force of law, and promoting Wisconsin agriculture at home and abroad. It has helpful information about children's product recalls at:

http://datcp.wi.gov/Consumer/Product_Safety/Children_Recalls_and_Advice.

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) – Bureau of Early Learning and Policy (BELP)

201 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Quality Initiatives: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/quality>

The Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Learning and Policy has lead planning responsibility for quality improvement efforts and delivery of resources and support to child care programming. The Bureau, in cooperation with the early childhood community, provides knowledgeable leadership, guidance, and joint planning to achieve this vision. Additionally, the Bureau directs the YoungStar Quality Rating and Improvement System for child care programs, the Scholarship and Bonus Initiatives administered through the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, the Child Care Resource and Referral Contract administered through the Supporting Families Together Association, and the quality contracts for training and technical assistance delivery for quality programming and planned supply of child care and early education services.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Education and our Natural Resources

P.O. Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707-7921

Phone: 608-264-6280

E-mail: janet.hutchens@wisconsin.gov

Website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/education/>

DNR education programs help people of all ages understand and appreciate our state's natural resources. The *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood* (<https://www.plt.org/environmental-education-for-early-childhood>) activity guide and music/movement CD from Project Learning Tree (PLT) includes educational materials to teach kids how to think, not what to think, about environmental issues. With these enjoyable, interdisciplinary activities, children 3 to 6 become nature detectives, dance with a tree, and take a simulated walk through a forest—complete with the sounds of the animals that live there! Thirty-five activities feature guided outdoor explorations; animal voices, dances, stories, and simulations; an annotated bibliography; art; assessments; and topic-related snacks. The curriculum is correlated to the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards. Designed for all educators and naturalists, the materials are only available through PLT workshops led by certified instructors.

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services – Safety and Buildings Division (DSPS-SBD)

201 W. Washington Avenue

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-3151

Website: <http://dsps.wi.gov/Home>

DSPS-SBD makes Safety and Building Code information available in multiple formats.

Wisconsin Division for Early Childhood (WDEC)

Website: <http://www.dec-sped.org/wi>

WDEC Facebook Page: [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wisconsin-Division-for-Early-Childhood-](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wisconsin-Division-for-Early-Childhood-WDEC/489375867751254)

[WDEC/489375867751254](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wisconsin-Division-for-Early-Childhood-WDEC/489375867751254)

WDEC is a state chapter of the Division for Early Childhood (DEC), the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. DEC is especially for individuals who work with or on behalf of children with special needs, birth through age eight, and their families. Founded in 1973, DEC promotes policies and advances evidence-based practices that support families and enhance the optimal development of young children (0-8) who have or are at risk for developmental delays and disabilities. WDEC established the Jenny Lange Scholarship Fund through UW-Whitewater and is a co-sponsor of the annual WI Early Childhood Education and Care Conference and the biennial JoLyn Beeman Memorial Lecture Series. Membership in WDEC provides reduced fees at these conferences; a state newsletter; and monthly publications, including the *Young Exceptional Children* journal.

Wisconsin Early Care and Education Career Guide

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/professional-guidance-career-guide.php>

The intent of the Wisconsin Career Guide is to support individuals in identifying career paths within the field of early care and education. Links are provided to connect individuals to the organizations with which they may be interested in seeking employment. Links are also provided to sites with information on educational and degree requirements. Resources are identified to support individuals seeking to further their education through credit-based coursework.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

Madison office: 744 Williamson Street, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703

Milwaukee office: 316 N. Milwaukee Street, Suite 410, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Madison Phone: 608-240-9880 or 1-800-783-9322, Madison Fax: 608-663-1091

Milwaukee Phone: 414-278-9322, Milwaukee Fax: 414-278-9336

Website: <http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/>

WECA is a statewide, nonprofit organization serving as a professional association whose members care for and educate Wisconsin's children, age birth to eight. WECA is an affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). WECA advocates for the child care profession, offers training and professional development, sponsors a Child Care Food Program, and administers the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin Scholarship Program which offers scholarship opportunities to teachers, family child care providers, center directors and administrators for credit-based education. WECA also administers the REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program, a statewide compensation initiative that awards stipends directly to family child care providers, center teachers, and program directors based on attained levels of education. WECA offers a free statewide Professional Development Counseling Service over the phone to anyone employed in early childhood education who wants to hear about the options for training and education available in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners (WECCP)

Department of Public Instruction

P.O. Box 7841

Madison, WI 53707-7841

Phone: 608-745-5404

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com>

WECCP was started in 1994 and focuses on collaboration among diverse early childhood partners, including the Wisconsin Departments of Children and Families (DCF), Public Instruction (DPI), and Health Services (DHS), and related early childhood organizations and agencies. The WECCP website serves as the collaborative source of information on issues of cross sector interest, state initiatives, and research-based practices. Regional Collaboration Coaches have been in place since 2004 to connect, build, and sustain cross sector systems around state and regional early childhood priority areas. WECCP's goal is for Wisconsin communities, agencies, associations, and state government to work together as a system of high quality comprehensive early childhood services for all children and families. Essential content areas for collaboration are: professional guidance; child development; Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards; Wisconsin Pyramid Model for Social and Emotional Competence; curriculum and assessment; literacy, math, and other content areas; health and wellness; diversity; Child Find and screening; children with disabilities; family partnerships; 4K community approaches; and councils and partnerships.

The WECCP listserv - <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/docs/listserv-weccp.pdf> - is designed to facilitate interactive, electronic communication among agencies, associations, and individuals providing services to Wisconsin's young children (birth to age 8) and their families. The focus of this listserv is on state, community and interagency efforts to improve service delivery approaches for young children and their families.

WECCP information on community approaches to serving children is available at:

<http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/4k-community-approaches-about.php>.

WECCP information on curriculum and assessment is available at: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/curriculum-assessment-about.php>.

WECCP professional development resources – including the *Wisconsin Core Competencies for Professionals Working with Young Children & Their Families* and the *Wisconsin Training and Technical Assistance Professional (T-TAP) Competencies for Early Childhood and Related Professionals Working with Adults* – are available at: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/professional-guidance-about.php>.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative (WECOPI)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

1 W. Wilson Street

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-1865

Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Program Website: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/physical-activity/>

WECOPI Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/WECOPI>

Early Care and Education Initiatives Website: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/physical-activity/Childcare/index.htm>

The Wisconsin Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative is a major statewide planning initiative, working toward developing and implementing a collaborative statewide multi-strategy, evidence-based initiative to enhance nutrition and physical activity among birth - five-year-olds and their families by engaging providers, families, community

partners and other stakeholders. Partners involved in the initiative come from the areas of public health, public instruction, early care and education agencies, families, early care and education providers, statewide agencies and groups that support the structure of early childhood.

Wisconsin Early Learning Coalition

David Edie, Wisconsin Council on Children & Families (WCCF)

Email: dedie@wccf.org

Website: <http://www.wccf.org>

Comprised of 12 prominent early childhood organizations, the Early Learning Coalition advocates that all Wisconsin's children get a "Great Start." Together the organizations promote public policies and public investments that make high-quality early care and education a top priority in our state. Wisconsin Council on Children and Families is the organizational home of the Coalition.

WI FACETS

600 W. Virginia Street, Suite 501

Milwaukee, WI 53204

Phone: 877-374-0511 or 414-374-4645

Website: <http://www.wifacets.org/>

Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support, Inc. (WI FACETS) is a nonprofit organization serving Wisconsin children and adults with disabilities, their families and those who support them. Services provided include: public awareness, parent education, specialized workshops, parent support, parent leadership, and promotion of partnership activities between parents and professionals.

Wisconsin Family Child Care Association (WFCCA)

Website: <http://www.wisconsinfamilychildcare.org>

The Wisconsin Family Child Care Association, WFCCA, is a statewide organization of family child care providers and their supporters, formed to provide support, involvement, and communication with others in the profession. The goal of the Association is to help maintain the high quality of care that promotes the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development of children by:

- Promoting the awareness of family child care as a viable choice in child care.
- Promoting awareness of the professionalism of family child care.
- Providing an opportunity for input into laws concerning children.
- Providing a statewide information/assistance network.
- Providing an opportunity for involvement, support, and communication with others.

Wisconsin First Step

1900 South Avenue, NCA2-04

La Crosse, WI 54601

Hotline: 1-800-642-7837

Business Line: 608-775-6339

E-mail: wispubhealth@mch-hotlines.org

Website: <http://www.mch-hotlines.org/wisconsin-first-step>

Wisconsin First Step is a statewide Information and Referral (I&R) hotline that serves families and providers working with children and youth who have special needs. Sponsored by Gundersen Health System, the line is operational 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. You may chat online from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday–Friday.

Wisconsin Head Start Association (WHSA)

810 W. Badger Rd

Madison, WI 53713

Phone: 608-442-6879 Fax: 608-442-7672

Website: <http://www.whsaonline.org/>

The Wisconsin Head Start Association (WHSA) is a private, not-for-profit, membership organization representing over 16,000 young children and their families and over 4,000 staff composing 62 Head Start/Early Head Start programs—including American Indian and Migrant/Seasonal programs—in Wisconsin. WHSA is an association of leaders dedicated to assuring the availability of comprehensive, top quality services for children and families in our state. They accomplish this through advocacy, the delivery of professional development services, and the creation of

unique resources for people and organizations committed to families.

Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)

Madison Office

201 W. Washington Avenue, Suite 700

Madison, WI 53703 Phone: 608-266-7884 or 1-800-334-6873, Fax: 608-267-1099

Milwaukee Office

140 S. 1st Street, Suite 200

Milwaukee, WI 53204 Phone: 414-227-4039 or 1-800-628-4833, Fax: 414-227-4704

Website: <http://www.wheda.com>

WHEDA operates programs that benefit child care providers who are looking for additional funding. WHEDA small business loan guarantees help reduce the financial risk to small business lenders and ensure that qualified Wisconsin small businesses have access to funding. Contact a WHEDA Business Development Officer in your community to learn more and get connected with one of their approved lenders to start the process:

<https://www.wheda.com/Business-Lending/Getting-Started>

Wisconsin Immunization Program

Phone: 608-267-9959

Website: <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/>

Local Health Department and Tribal Agency Listing: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/localhealth/>

The Wisconsin Division of Public Health Immunization Program, in partnership and collaboration with local partners, strives to eliminate the transmission of vaccine-preventable disease through effective immunization programs and outbreak control measures. Utilizing best-practice strategies and evidence-based programming, the steps to achieve this mission include: improving the effectiveness of immunization delivery systems; increasing immunization access for all; identifying and eliminating racial, ethnic and other disparities; and protecting the community through high immunization rates. This web page contains vaccine information as well as many links to other pages and sites, including the National Immunization Program (NIP) and the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC).

Wisconsin Immunization Registry

Wisconsin Division of Public Health

Bureau of Communicable Disease

Immunization Section

1 W. Wilson Street, Rm 318

PO Box 2659

Madison, WI 53701-2659

Phone: 608-261-9691

Fax: 608-267-9493

E-mail: dhswirhelp@wisconsin.gov

Website: <https://www.dhfswir.org/PR/portallInfoManager.do>

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) is a computerized Internet database application that was developed to record and track immunization dates of Wisconsin's children and adults, providing assistance for keeping everyone on track for their recommended immunizations. Statewide release occurred in May 2000. All demographic information for births occurring in Wisconsin was back-loaded to January 1995 and continues to be downloaded on a weekly basis.

Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (WMELS)

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/wmels-about.php>

The Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards are derived from research in all the domains of the child's early learning and development and apply to all settings in which children receive care and education. They were developed by the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards Steering Committee, composed of representatives from the state Departments of Public Instruction, Health Services, and Children and Families; the Head Start State Collaboration Office; and Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners. The Early Learning Standards are a listing of developmental expectations for children birth to first grade supported by practice-based evidence and scientific research. The Standards provide a shared framework for understanding and communicating expectations for young children's development. They are a guide for parents, early care and education professionals, and policymakers, all of whom share responsibility for the well-being of young children. A copy of the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards can be downloaded at the link listed above. The Frequently Asked Questions section lists

commonly asked questions regarding the development and intended use of the standards.

Training for Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards is taking place throughout Wisconsin for educators, child care providers and families who want to continue to improve the quality of early education and care for children birth to first grade.

Wisconsin Nature Action Collaborative for Children (WiNACC)

c/o 2181 N. 53rd Street

Milwaukee, WI 53208

E-mail: wisconsinnatureacc@gmail.com

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinNatureActionCollaborativeforChildren>

WiNACC is a non-profit organization whose members form a community of inspired adults who cultivate children's connection with nature through exploration and collaboration. WiNACC provides services to early childhood programs as they guide young children in joyfully learning and bonding with the natural world. The Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation (WEEF), a 501c(3) organization, is the fiscal sponsor for WiNACC.

Wisconsin Pyramid Model for Social and Emotional Competence

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/social-emotional-competence-sefel-pyramid.php>

The Wisconsin Pyramid Model for Social and Emotional Competence in Young Children is a developmentally appropriate, evidence-based framework designed to promote social and emotional competence and address challenging behaviors in young children ages birth to 5. An implementation grant from the Center for Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) at Vanderbilt University allowed Wisconsin to establish demonstration sites and adapt the curriculum for child care staff into an 8-part training series. Pyramid Model materials are available at: <http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/index.html>

Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program / Fraud Detection and Investigation

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

Bureau of Early Learning and Policy, Shares Policy Section

Phone: 608-261-6317, Option 2, Fax: 608-266-8302

Website: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/wishares>

Bureau of Program Integrity, Fraud Detection and Investigation

Phone: 1-877-302-FRAUD (3728)

E-mail: dcfmbchildcarefraud@wisconsin.gov

Website: http://dcf.wi.gov/program_integrity/fraud/mailto_cdo.asp

The Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Learning and Policy (BELP) provides effective management, development, and coordination of public child care assistance to families. Its vision is to provide access to affordable, high quality child care and early education experiences, to enhance children's development and to support their families in work and parenting roles. The Bureau, in cooperation with the early childhood community, provides knowledgeable leadership, guidance, and joint planning to achieve this vision. The Bureau facilitates increased quality programming and planned supply of child care and early education services. The Bureau of Program Integrity prevents, detects, and recovers fraudulent Wisconsin Shares payments.

Wisconsin State Reading Association (WSRA)

Website: <http://www.wsra.org/>

The Wisconsin State Reading Association (WSRA) has several committees that do work related to early literacy learning, including Children's Literature, Early Childhood Literacy, Early Literacy Intervention, and Families and Literacy. The Families and Literacy committee maintains a monthly newsletter, "Families and Literacy," that can be downloaded at: <http://www.wsra.org/families-literacy>. The Families and Literacy committee also produced a video, "The Power of Reading to Your Child", that can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEPIGSwZi-U> or ordered on DVD at: http://www.wsra.org/assets/media/updated_power_of_reading_to_your_child_dvd_order.pdf.

Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative (WSPEI)

Phone: 715-682-2363 x112 (CESA #12)

E-mail: info@wspei.org

Website: <http://wspei.org>

WSPEI is a service for parents, educators, and others interested in parent-educator partnerships for children with disabilities. WSPEI has the goal to help parents and school districts find or create the resources that will help them

build positive working relationships that lead to shared decision-making and children's learning. WSPEI supports increased sharing of information among parents, schools, projects, organizations and agencies through networking meetings, conferences, person-to-person contact and media.

Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS): Early Childhood Education (ECE) – Two-Year Associate Degree Program

ECE Career Program Website: <http://www.wistechcolleges.org/explore-careers/program/early-childhood-education>

Working with and understanding preschool children is the goal of the Child Care and Development program. Students learn to plan and guide children's activities such as dramatic play, art, music, language arts, project activities, and field trips. Emphasis is also placed on children's physical and intellectual growth, getting along with others, and positive behavior techniques. Child care settings are varied, with many new programs developing constantly. Day care needs have far surpassed the number of graduates available and trends are indicating a steady growth in this field. Jobs are many and varied, and may include preschool teachers and directors, special education teacher aides, assistant teachers and nannies.

Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)

Milwaukee – Business Office
1533 N. Rivercenter Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53212
Phone: 414-263-5450, Fax: 414-263-5456

Madison – South Central Region Office
2300 S. Park Street, Suite 103
Madison, WI 53713
Phone: 608-257-5450, Fax: 608-257-5454

Southeast (Kenosha and Racine) Offices:

<http://www.wwbic.com/about-vision/statewide-offices-womens-business-centers>

Website: <http://www.wwbic.com>

The WWBIC is an economic development corporation providing quality business education and access to capital for entrepreneurs. WWBIC consults, educates and mentors owners of small and micro businesses throughout Wisconsin. WWBIC can provide a free business assessment, and individuals can gain a thorough understanding of financing options available for business start-up or expansion. WWBIC can also help individuals start out by developing a business plan outline. WWBIC provides training, marketing tips and a business resource directory. The WWBIC webpage also includes tools and resources on the following: business plan outline, marketing tips, business resource directory, and child care business planning software.

YoungStar – Wisconsin's Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Learning and Policy
201 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53708

Website: <http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar>

YoungStar, Wisconsin's Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System, sets a five-star rating system for child care providers based on four quality components: the provider's education and training, the learning environment and curriculum, the program's business and professional practices, and the children's health and well-being.

Through this rating system the state is addressing several key issues in Wisconsin's child care system. It is:

1. Improving the overall quality of child care.
2. Giving parents a clear, understandable tool to compare their child care options and choose high quality care.
3. Creating tools, training, and incentives for providers to improve services, particularly for low-income children.
4. Establishing a connection between child care quality and the rate of Wisconsin Shares payments, and helping prevent fraud in the Wisconsin Shares system.

Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) is the contracted agency for the delivery of YoungStar services. It supports early education programs as they demonstrate the quality of care they offer to Wisconsin's youngest children.

Local administration of YoungStar occurs through 14 Local YoungStar Offices. Contact information is available at: <http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/pdf/regional-contact-printable-map.pdf>

The YoungStar Quality Indicator Point Detail documents for Family Child Care, Group Child Care, School-Age Care, and Licensed Day Camps are available at: <http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/details.htm>

The Star ratings of child care programs may be seen on the Regulated Child Care and YoungStar Public Search at:
<http://childcarefinder.wisconsin.gov>.

YoungStar Regional Training Calendar

c/o Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)

700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6

Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 608-443-2499 or 888-713-KIDS, Fax: 608-441-5399

E-mail: info@supportingfamilies.together.org

Website: <http://supportingfamilies.together.org/wp-content/uploads/Annual-Training-Calendar.pdf>

YoungStar maintains a list of low-cost or no-cost opportunities for professional development, networking, resource gathering, and fun – all contributing to YoungStar success. The trainings are listed by the county, making them easy to find.

National Resources

AdvancED

Alpharetta, GA 30009

Phone: 888-413-3669

Website: <http://www.advanc-ed.org/services/early-learning-accreditation>

AdvancED is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that conducts rigorous, on-site external reviews and accreditations of PreK-12 schools and school systems to ensure that all learners realize their full potential.

AdvancED Performance Accreditation for Early Learning Schools motivates schools to continuously improve on behalf of the young children they serve. If a child care program is accredited by AdvancED *and* the program meets the educational requirements of a 4 Star program in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system, that program is eligible for a 4 Star rating. If a program has AdvancED accreditation *and* meets the educational requirements of a 5 Star program in its YoungStar rating track, the program is eligible for a 5 Star rating.

Afterschool Alliance

1616 H Street NW, Suite 820

Washington, DC 20006

Phone: 866-KIDS-TODAY

E-mail: info@afterschoolalliance.org

Website: <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org>

The Afterschool Alliance is an organization dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of afterschool programs and advocating for more afterschool investments. The Alliance works with the Presidential Administration, the U.S. Congress, governors, mayors, and advocates across the country. It has more than 25,000 afterschool program partners. Alliance efforts include *Lights On Afterschool*, a nationwide celebration of afterschool programs that attracts 1 million Americans to 7,500 events across the country; an ongoing media campaign; and many other lobbying, training, and publishing efforts.

Allergy and Asthma Network – Mothers of Asthmatics

8229 Boone Boulevard, Suite 260

Vienna, VA 22182

Phone: 800-878-4403, Fax: 703-288-5271

Website: <http://www.allergyasthmanetwork.org>

Founded in 1985, AANMA is a national nonprofit network of families whose desire is to overcome, not cope with, allergies and asthma. AANMA believes that the shortest route to that goal is knowledge, and that's why AANMA produces accurate, timely, practical, and livable alternatives to suffering.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

141 Northwest Point Boulevard

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1019

Phone: 847-434-4000 or 1-800-433-9016, Fax: 847-434-8000

Website: <http://www.aap.org>

Committed to the attainment of optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all infants, children and adolescents, this website provides information on health-related topics from the newsroom on research, professional education, quality improvement and public policy.

American Camp Association (ACA)

5000 State Road 67 North

Martinsville, IN 46151-7902

Phone: 765-342-8456 or 1-800-428-2267, Fax: 765-342-2065

Website: <http://www.ACAcamps.org>

The American Camp Association (ACA) is a private, nonprofit, educational organization of camp professionals dedicated to ensuring the high quality of camp programs; a greater public understanding of and support for the value of the camp experience; and an increase in the number of children, youth, and adults of all social, cultural, and economic groups who participate in the camp experience. ACA accreditation is accepted for licensed day camps as equivalent to 4 Stars in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system. If the education

and training levels of staff members in an ACA-accredited day camp meets 5 Star minimums, the program is awarded a 5 Star rating.

The ACA community of camps promotes active participation, caring relationships, and a focus on the emotional, social, spiritual, and physical growth of the individual. Camps vary in their purpose and desired outcomes, but each encourages risk-taking, valuing the resources of the natural world, maintaining healthy lifestyles, and learning through a variety of fun and life-changing experiences. As a leading authority in youth development, ACA works to preserve, promote, and improve the camp experience.

American Federation of Teachers: Center for the Child Care Workforce (CCW)

E-mail: ccw@aft.org

Website: <http://www.aft.org/node/10415>

High-quality early childhood education has been on the AFT's agenda since the 1970s as a strategy for improving educational outcomes, particularly for disadvantaged children. Today, the AFT represents thousands of early childhood workers in a growing number of facilities across the country. The union's early childhood program, which includes the AFT's Center for the Childcare Workforce, promotes education and training, better wages and working conditions, and a stronger voice for the early care and education workforce.

American Lung Association

55 W. Wacker Drive, Suite 1150

Chicago, IL 60601

Phone: 1-800-LUNGUSA (586-4872)

Website: <http://www.lung.org>

The mission of the American Lung Association® is to prevent lung disease and promote lung health. The American Lung Association® has many programs and strategies for fighting lung disease. Among these are Open Airways For Schools, the American Lung Association's elementary-school education program for children with asthma. Open Airways teaches children with asthma to understand and manage their illness so they can lead more normal lives. The American Lung Association® offers a variety of smoking control and prevention programs targeted to specific groups: some aimed at adults, others intended for school use, and still others designed to build bridges between the home and school and involve community leaders along with parents and educators.

American Montessori Society (AMS)

116 E. 16th Street

New York, NY 10003

Phone: 212-358-1250, Fax: 212-358-1256

E-mail: ams@amshq.org

Website: <http://amshq.org>

The American Montessori Society (AMS) is the foremost advocate for quality Montessori education, an innovative, child-centered approach to learning. AMS sets the high professional standards that inform Montessori education as practiced in AMS-accredited schools and taught in AMS-affiliated teacher education programs. If a child care program is accredited by AMS *and* the program meets the educational requirements of a 4 Star program in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system, that program is eligible for a 4 Star rating. If a program has AMS accreditation *and* meets the educational requirements of a 5 Star program in its YoungStar rating track, the program is eligible for a 5 Star rating.

Association for Early Learning Leaders (formerly known as the National Accreditation Commission or NAC)

8000 Centre Park Drive, Suite 170

Austin, TX 78754

Phone: 800-537-1118

E-mail: info@earlylearningleaders.org

Website: <http://www.earlylearningleaders.org>

The Association for Early Learning Leaders, formerly known as the National Association of Child Care Professionals, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to excellence by promoting leadership development and enhancing program quality through the National Accreditation Commission's standards. Early Learning Leader's goal is to strengthen the knowledge, skills, and abilities of early care directors, owners, emerging leaders and other early learning professionals to ensure quality child care programs for young children. Accreditation by Early Learning Leaders is equivalent to a 5 Star rating in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system.

BUILD Initiative

Send postal mail to BUILD's fiscal sponsor, Third Sector New England (TSNE), at:

BUILD Initiative/TSNE

89 South Street, Suite 700

Boston, MA 02111

E-mail: info@buildinitiative.org

Website: <http://www.buildinitiative.org>

Related Websites:

Office of Child Care: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ>

National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement:

<http://grisnetwork.org/category/author/national-center-child-care-quality-improvement>

QRIS National Learning Network: <http://www.grisnetwork.org/>

Early Learning Challenge Collaborative: <http://www.elccollaborative.org/>

The BUILD Initiative helps states create comprehensive early childhood systems and coordinated, effective policies that address children's health, mental health and nutrition, early care and education, family support, and early intervention. BUILD's vision is at the center of an emerging and vibrant state-based policy movement in the early childhood development field. BUILD works with those who set policies, provide services and advocate for the youngest children to make sure that they are safe, healthy, eager to learn and ready to succeed in school.

Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (CSCCE)

Institute for Research on Labor and Employment

University of California, Berkeley

2521 Channing Way, #5555

Berkeley, CA 94720-5555

Phone: 510-642-2035, Fax: 510- 642-6432

E-mail: cscceinfo@berkeley.edu

Website: <http://www.irle.berkeley.edu/cscce>

CSCCE conducts research and proposes policy solutions focused on achieving comprehensive public investments that enable and reward the early childhood workforce to ensure high quality care and education for all children.

Center on Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

1200 18th Street NW, Suite 200

Washington, D.C. 20036

Phone: 202-906-8000

Website: <http://www.clasp.org>

High-quality child care and early education can build a strong foundation for young children's healthy development and ensure that children have all they need to thrive. This knowledge drives CLASP's work to promote policies that support both child development and the needs of low-income working parents. CLASP supports policies that expand resources for child care and early education initiatives at the federal, state, and local levels. CLASP also studies the relationships among child care subsidy systems, Head Start and Early Head Start, state pre-kindergarten programs, and other birth to five early education efforts, to advance ideas that ensure these systems address the full range of needs of children and families.

Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University

50 Church Street, 4th Floor

Cambridge, MA 02138

Phone: 617-496-0578

E-mail: developingchild@harvard.edu

Website: <http://developingchild.harvard.edu>

The mission of the Center on the Developing Child is to leverage science to enhance child well-being through innovations in policy and practice. Specifically, the Center strives to translate advances in neuroscience, molecular biology, genomics, and the behavioral and social sciences into creative new strategies for action. Their website includes reports and videos that very effectively show what society can do to help expand opportunities early in life for all children to achieve their full potential and engage in responsible and productive citizenship.

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)

Mary Louise Hemmeter, Principal Investigator
Vanderbilt University, Department of Special Education
Box 328 GPC
Nashville, TN 37203
Phone: 615-322-8150, Fax: 615-343-1570
E-mail: ml.hemmeter@vanderbilt.edu
Website: <http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu>

The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning is a national center focused on strengthening the capacity of child care and Head Start programs to improve the social and emotional outcomes of young children. The Center develops and disseminates evidence-based, user-friendly information to help early childhood educators meet the needs of the growing number of children with challenging behaviors and mental health challenges in child care and Head Start programs.

The Center has also developed *What Works Briefs* that provide summaries of effective practices for supporting children's social-emotional development and preventing challenging behaviors. Each Brief describes practical strategies, provides references to more information, and includes a one-page handout that highlights the major points of the Brief. http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/resources/what_works.html

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027
Phone: 800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
Website: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Information for Early Childhood Educators about the *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* campaign:
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/ccp>

CDC is collaborating with other organizations to create the expertise, information, and tools that people and communities need to protect their health – through health promotion; prevention of disease, injury and disability; and preparedness for new health threats. The CDC Core Values are: Accountability, Respect and Integrity.

Child Care Aware

1515 N. Courthouse Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201
Phone: 703-341-4100, Fax: 703-341-4101
Website: <http://usa.childcareaware.org>

Child Care Aware® of America (formerly NACCRRA) is a national voice for child care. Child Care Aware works with more than 600 state and local Child Care Resource and Referral agencies to ensure that families in every local community have access to quality, affordable child care. Child Care Aware leads projects that increase the quality and availability of child care, offer comprehensive training to child care professionals, undertake groundbreaking research, and advocate for child care policies that positively impact the lives of children and families. The mission of this organization is to promote national policies and partnerships to advance the development and learning of all children and to provide vision, leadership, and support to community Child Care Resource and Referral. The Child Care Aware provider site (<http://usa.childcareaware.org/members-providers>) includes useful tools and resources to support individuals beginning careers as child care providers.

Child Care Law Center

445 Church Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
Phone: 1-415-558-8005
E-mail: info@childcarelaw.org
Website: <http://childcarelaw.org>

The Child Care Law Center (CCLC) is a California nonprofit legal services organization that uses legal tools to make high quality, affordable child care available to every child, every family, and every community. This is the only organization in the country devoted exclusively to the complex legal issues that affect child care. The work of CCLC encompasses public benefits, civil rights, housing, economic development, regulation and licensing, and land use.

Child Care Purchasing Alliance (CCPA)

2775 S Moorland Road #202

New Berlin, WI 53151

Phone: 800-297-5006

Email: contact@ChildCarePurchasing.org

Website: <http://childcarepurchasing.org>

The Child Care Purchasing Alliance was formed to help child care centers save money by purchasing their products and services as a group at the most competitive prices possible. Members include child care centers, schools, preschools, charter schools, learning centers, special education centers, YMCAs, Boys & Girls Clubs, and any other organization providing care or education to children.

Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)

815 W. Van Buren Street, Suite 210

Chicago, IL 60607-3567

Phone: 312-226-3770

E-mail: info@casel.org

Website: <http://www.casel.org>

CASEL is a not-for-profit organization that works to advance the science and evidence-based practice of social and emotional learning. It was founded in 1994 by Daniel Goleman, the author of the book *Emotional Intelligence*, educator/philanthropist Eileen Rockefeller Growald, and a group of distinguished researchers and practitioners. The *2013 CASEL Guide: Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs – Preschool and Elementary School Edition* may be downloaded from the CASEL website: <http://www.casel.org/preschool-and-elementary-edition-casel-guide>

Council on Accreditation (COA)

45 Broadway, 29th Floor

New York, NY 10006

Phone: 212-797-3000

Website: <http://coanet.org/>

The Council on Accreditation (COA) partners with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards. Their accreditation is accepted for licensed group and school-age programs as equivalent to 4 Stars in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system. If the education and training levels of staff members in the COA-accredited organizations meet 5 Star minimums, the program is awarded a 5 Star rating.

Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ecd/interagency-projects/ece-technical-assistance>

The Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Office of Head Start and Office of Child Care collaborate to effectively provide training and technical assistance (TTA) across early care and education programs. This joint TTA system supports early care and education (ECE) programs and early educators in delivering quality services to children and their families across the country. Nine National Centers promote excellence through high quality, evidence-based, practical resources and approaches. The nine National Centers are:

- National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning
- National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness
- National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance
- National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement
- National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations
- National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment
- National Center on Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships
- National Center on Tribal Child Care Implementation and Innovation
- National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability.

eXtension Alliance for Better Child Care

Website: http://www.extension.org/child_care

This interactive learning environment, sponsored by the Cooperative Extension System, is an excellent place to find research-based, practical information about children and child care.

First Five Years Fund (FFYF)

Chicago Office: 33 W. Monroe Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60603

Phone: 312-453-1835

Website: www.ffyf.org

Through information, advocacy, and outreach the First Five Years Fund works with policymakers, experts, business leaders and advocates to advance federal investment in quality early childhood education for disadvantaged children from birth to age five. It is committed to moving knowledge about the importance of early childhood education into wide-scale practice through comprehensive, quality early childhood education systems, programs, and supports. FFYF helps elected officials, business leaders, and philanthropists see early childhood education as a solution for dramatically improving education, health, social, and economic outcomes – in the short- and long-term. It helps them understand how to craft policies, leverage existing funding, add new revenue, develop programs, and incentivize the most efficient and effective ways to invest in the development of America's greatest resource – its children.

Healthy Children

American Academy of Pediatrics

141 Northwest Point Boulevard

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098

Phone: 847-434-4000

E-mail: info@healthychildren.org

Website: <http://www.healthychildren.org>

The American Academy of Pediatrics' consumer website has excellent information on health and safety for parents and child care providers.

Healthy Child Care America (HCCA)

American Academy of Pediatrics

Department of Child Health and Wellness

Division of Developmental Pediatrics and Preventive Services

Early Education and Child Care Initiatives

141 Northwest Point Boulevard

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Phone: 1-888-227-5409

E-mail: childcare@aap.org

Website: <http://www.healthychildcare.org>

The American Academy of Pediatrics' Healthy Child Care America program is a collaborative effort of health professionals and child care providers working to improve the early education, health, and safety of children in out-of-home child care. This includes increasing access to preventive health services, safe physical environments, and a medical home for all children. The program also strives to increase pediatrician participation and effectiveness in providing high-quality care and promoting early education and children's health and well-being.

Let's Move! Child Care

E-mail: letsmovechildcare@nemours.org

Website: <http://www.healthykidshealthyfuture.org/welcome.html>

This website is full of tips for child care providers who want to help children learn habits that will keep them healthy for life. It is structured around five goals related to physical activity, screen time, food, beverages, and breastfeeding.

National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs (NAC)

(See Association for Early Learning Leaders.)

National AfterSchool Association (NAA)

2961A Hunter Mill Road, #626

Oakton, VA 22124

Phone: 703-610-9002, Fax 703-610-9003

E-mail: info@naaweb.org

Website: <http://naaweb.org>

NAA is a membership association for professionals who work with children and youth in diverse school and community-based settings during out-of-school hours. NAA provides publications, radio programs, advocacy, a national convention, an informational website, and other services that reflect the best-practice thinking of the

afterschool profession. It offers access to affordable training, technical assistance, and professional development for afterschool program staff. The Wisconsin AfterSchool Association is a state affiliate of NAA.

National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)

1743 W. Alexander Street, Suite 201

Salt Lake City, UT 84119

Phone: 801-88-NAFCC (801-886-2322)

E-mail: nafcc@nafcc.org

Website: <http://www.nafcc.org>

The mission of NAFCC is to support the profession of family child care and to encourage high-quality care for children. NAFCC promotes high-quality family child care through accreditation, leadership training, technical assistance, public education, and policy initiatives. NAFCC holds an annual national conference and publishes a quarterly newsletter. NAFCC accreditation is accepted for regulated family child care programs as equivalent to a 4 Star rating in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system. If the provider whose program is NAFCC-accredited meets the educational requirements of a 5 Star family child care program, the program is eligible for a 5 Star rating.

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

1313 L Street NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202-232-8777 or 1-800-424-2460 or 1-866-NAEYC-4U

Website: <http://www.naeyc.org>

The nation's largest professional association for early childhood educators, NAEYC membership includes a subscription to the magazine of your choice – *Young Children* or *Teaching Young Children* – access to digital content, discounts on books and conference registrations, an Action Center for advocates, and other benefits. Members of the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA) are members of NAEYC. NAEYC has worked to raise the quality of programs for all children from birth through age eight. A major part of NAEYC's efforts to improve early childhood education is through different systems of accreditation for programs that are committed to meeting national standards of quality. Accreditation by NAEYC is equivalent to a 5 Star rating in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system.

National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA)

The NECPA Commission, Inc.

P.O. Box 2948

Merrifield, VA 22116

Phone: 855-706-3272

Website: <http://www.necpa.net>

NECPA standards are based on publications from highly esteemed organizations, such as the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the National Health and Safety Performance Standards developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Public Health Association. These standards assess quality in the areas of adult and child interaction, staff utilization, health and safety, physical environment, administration, and parent and community relationships. A strong emphasis has been placed on current developments in health and safety, brain research, and risk management. The NECPA Commission is dedicated to promoting high-quality early childhood programs across the country and internationally. If a child care program is accredited by NECPA *and* the program meets the educational requirements of a 4 Star program in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system, that program is eligible for a 4 Star rating. If a program has NECPA accreditation *and* meets the educational requirements of a 5 Star program in its YoungStar rating track, the program is eligible for a 5 Star rating.

National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

73 Easton Avenue

New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1879

Phone: 848-932-4350, Fax: 732-932-4360

Website: <http://www.nieer.org>

The National Institute for Early Education Research supports early childhood education initiatives by providing objective, nonpartisan information based on research. NIEER is one component of a larger early education initiative

designed, funded and managed by The Pew Charitable Trusts. *Preschool Matters...Today!* is the blog companion to NIEER's website: <http://preschoolmatters.org>

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

P.O. Box 3006

Rockville, MD 20847

Phone: 1-800-505-CRIB (2742)

E-mail: NICHDInformationResourceCenter@mail.nih.gov

Website: <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/sids>

The *Safe to Sleep® Public Education Campaign*, formerly known as the Back to Sleep campaign, focuses on actions that can be taken to help babies sleep safely and to reduce their risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other sleep-related causes of infant death. This campaign has been successful in promoting infant back sleeping to parents, family members, child care providers, health professionals, and all other caregivers of infants.

National Institute on Out-of-School Time (NIOST)

Wellesley Centers for Women

Wellesley College

106 Central Street

Wellesley, MA 02481

Phone: 781-283-2547, Fax 781-283-3657

E-mail: niost@wellesley.edu

Website: <http://www.niost.org>

NIOST provides evaluations, consultation, training, and publications to meet the needs of out-of-school time programs. It draws on both research and practice in its work to ensure that all children, youth, and families have access to high quality programs, activities, and opportunities during non-school hours. Issues of its national, peer-reviewed journal *Afterschool Matters* may be downloaded from its website.

National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS)

University of Northern Iowa

103 Human Performance Center

Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0618

Phone: 1-800-554-PLAY

E-mail: playground-safety@uni.edu

Website: <http://www.playgroundsafety.org>

NPPS provides playground safety tips, standards, and training. Its S.A.F.E. framework promotes four goals to prevent playground injuries: supervision, age-appropriate design, fall surfacing, and equipment maintenance.

National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC)

University of Colorado College of Nursing

Aurora, CO

Website: <http://nrckids.org>

The NRC's primary mission for 20 years was to promote health and safety in out-of-home child care settings throughout the nation. NRC's work began moving to agencies in the Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System in late 2015. *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, Third Edition*, published in 2011, is the standard resource for information concerning this subject. The entire text of this publication remains available on the NRC website at <http://nrckids.org/CFOC3>. Check <http://nrckids.org> for the status of the database of State licensing and regulation information for each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

National Women's Law Center (NWLC)

11 Dupont Circle, NW, #800

Washington, DC 20036

Phone: 202-588-5180

E-mail: info@nwlc.org

Website: <https://nwlc.org>

Since 1972, the National Women's Law Center has expanded the possibilities for women and girls in this country. The Center uses the law in all its forms: getting new laws on the books and enforced; litigating ground-breaking

cases in state and federal courts all the way to the Supreme Court; and educating the public about ways to make the law and public policies work for women and their families. An experienced staff of more than 50 takes on the issues that cut to the core of women's and girls' lives in education, employment, family economic security, and health — with special attention given to the needs of low-income women and their families.

Partnership for After School Education (PASE)

120 Broadway, Suite 230

New York, NY 10271

Phone: 212-571-2664

Website: <http://www.pasesetter.org>

PASE is a child-focused organization that promotes and supports quality afterschool programs, particularly those serving young people from underserved communities. It provides training and technical assistance, consults with organizations to build their capacity and sustainability, convenes afterschool leaders and others from allied professions, acts as a laboratory for innovative afterschool programs and practices, recognizes outstanding afterschool staff, and advocates for the afterschool field. From <http://pasesetter.org/initiatives/youth-outcomes>, you can link to the *Afterschool Youth Outcomes Inventory, Second Edition* (a comprehensive free tool for afterschool practitioners to use in assessing and articulating their programs' impact on youth) and other resources.

Tribes Learning Community

60 Commerce Lane, Suite D

Cloverdale, CA 95425

Phone: 707-838-1061, Fax: 707-894-2355

E-mail: tribes@tribes.com

Website: <http://tribes.com>

The Tribes TLC® process is an effective way to improve behavior and learning by creating a positive school, classroom, or afterschool environment. Tribes TLC® offers collaborative skills, community agreements, meaningful participation, strategies for integrating curriculum, and professional development for teachers and administrators. In 2012, Wisconsin's 129 Certified Tribes Trainers offered 24-hour basic training and a shortened 12-hour training for afterschool programs.

United Cerebral Palsy

1825 K Street NW, Suite 600

Washington, DC 20006

Phone: 800-872-5827 or 202-776-0406

Website: <http://ucp.org>

UCP educates, advocates, and provides support services to ensure a life without limits for people with a spectrum of disabilities. UCP works to advance the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people with disabilities through an affiliate network that has helped millions. Visit their website to find your local affiliate.

US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

4330 E. West Highway

Bethesda, MD 20814

Toll-Free Consumer Hotline: 1-800-638-2772

Website: <http://www.cpsc.gov>

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to a decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 40 years.

US Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program (USDA CACFP)

Food & Nutrition Service (FNS) National Office:

3101 Park Center Drive

Alexandria, VA 22302

Phone: 703-305-2062

Food & Nutrition Service (FNS) Midwest Regional Office

77 W. Jackson Boulevard, 20th Floor

Chicago, IL 60604-3507

Phone: 312-353-6664

Website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program>

Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program, children in child care settings have access to healthy meals and snacks. Day care centers and home day care providers can participate in the programs.

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Healthy Child Care

USEPA Headquarters

Ariel Rios Building

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Mail Code 1107T

Washington, DC 20460

EPA Region 5 Children's Health Coordinators: Maryann Suero (Suero.Maryann@epa.gov, 312-886-9077) and Edward Master (Master.Edward@epa.gov, 312-353-5830)

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/childcare>

The EPA provides information on how to identify potentially harmful environmental contaminants in child care settings and steps you can take to reduce or eliminate those hazards.

Zero to Three

ZERO TO THREE: National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families

1255 23rd Street NW, Suite 350

Washington, DC 20037

Phone: 202-638-1144

Website: <http://www.zerotothree.org>

Zero to Three is a national, nonprofit organization that provides parents, professionals and policymakers the knowledge and know-how to nurture early development. Its mission is to ensure that all babies and toddlers have a strong start in life.

Edits and additions should be directed to youngstar@wisconsin.gov

10/10/2016 resource listing